

CONFIDENTIAL10th March, 1960COCOM Document No. 3911COORDINATING COMMITTEERECORD OF DISCUSSIONONPROPOSED GERMAN EXPORT TO POLAND OF SILICONFOR THE PRODUCTION OF SILICON RECTIFIER CELLS7th March, 1960

Present: Belgium (Luxembourg), Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, United Kingdom, United States.

Reference: COCOM Document No. 3880

1. The CHAIRMAN referred to the German Memorandum (COCOM Document No. 3880) in which the Committee was asked to give views as to whether exports of the purified silicon described therein, and needed for the production of silicon rectifier cells, would fall under the special policy adopted towards Poland. He invited delegations to make known their preliminary views.
2. The GERMAN Delegate first wished to make a couple of slight amendments to his Delegation's Memorandum and to give further particulars. He explained that the silicon cells in question were "rectifier" cells only and not "detector" cells as twice stated, and that the purity of the silicon involved should read as "more than 99.9%". He made it quite clear that this request concerned Poland alone and that there was no question of supplying silicon to the U.S.S.R. He further explained that plant for the production of silicon rectifier cells were free from embargo but that such equipment would only be of interest to the Polish economy if the German exporter could promise to supply the necessary raw material, i.e. silicon of a purity of more than 99.9%. The German authorities had refused to supply equipment and technical know-how for the processing and purification of silicon, but had indicated that they might provide equipment for the production of silicon rectifier cells. The German Delegation were therefore now asking the Committee for views as to the principle of supplying silicon to Poland in order to be able to continue negotiations. They would of course consult the Committee as and when individual quantities were required.
3. The UNITED KINGDOM Delegate thanked his German colleague for this additional information, which already answered some of his questions. His authorities were especially concerned with the purity of the silicon, and wished to have some indication as to how much it would exceed 99.9%, i.e. to know the second decimal place at least, since those were the figures which indicated the degree of purity required for the making of transistors.
4. The UNITED STATES Delegate likewise stated that most of the questions which he had been prepared to ask had already been answered. He wished to know, however, what would be the stated or expected end-use of the silicon rectifier cells and, like his United Kingdom colleague, he would like to have more precise information concerning the purity of the silicon to be exported; specifically, his authorities were interested in ascertaining the maximum purity intended for the silicon involved. The Delegate assumed that the practice adopted by the Committee in this instance would be to examine each individual

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request on its own merits when submitted. With the additional information already provided by the German Delegate and answers to the questions raised above, he hoped to be able to indicate his Government's probable attitude toward such future requests, it being understood, of course, that no commitment could be given in advance of full consideration of particular cases as and when submitted to the Committee by the German Delegation.

5. The ITALIAN, NETHERLANDS and BELGIAN Delegates stated that, in their view, exports of the purified silicon in question would be covered by the special Polish policy, on the understanding that cases would be examined individually.

6. The FRENCH Delegate undertook to give final views on the matter, after study of the additional information supplied.

7. The DANISH Delegate had no objection in principle, and undertook to give favourable consideration to such exception requests if the normal guarantees were provided.

8. The GERMAN Delegate thanked delegations for the views expressed and noted that two delegations only had reserved their position. In reply to his United States colleague, he explained that the silicon rectifier cells were required for electric locomotives. He would, however, make further enquiries on this point and also as to the maximum purity of the silicon concerned. Upon receipt of such information, he would again bring the case before the Committee.

9. The CHAIRMAN noted that outstanding views would be given once the German Delegation had supplied the additional information required.

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